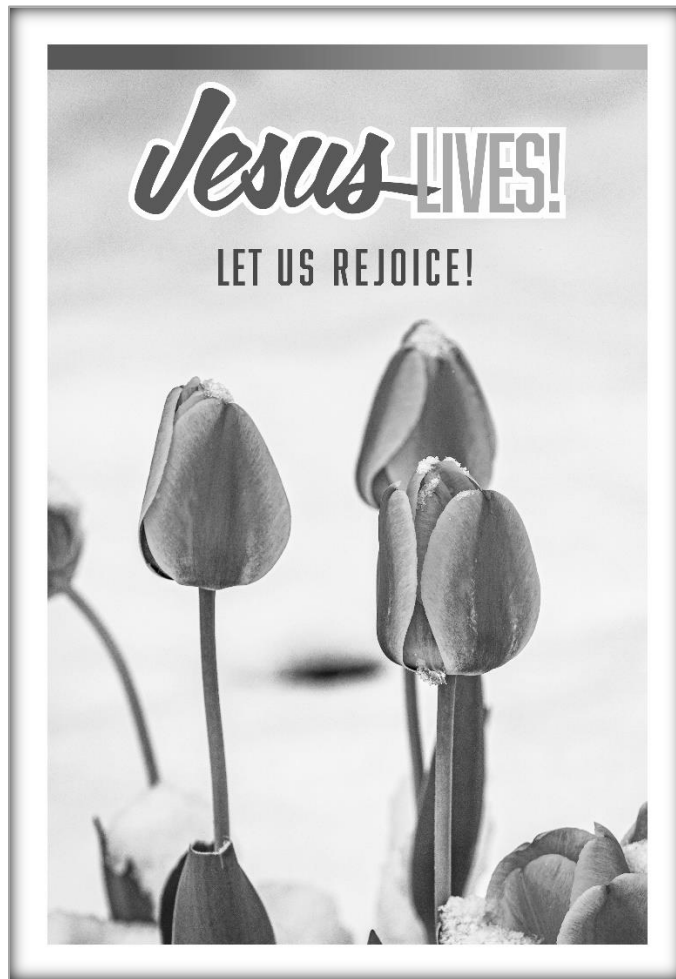


THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 14, 2024



LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS-LCMS

*Welcoming all to walk together
toward abundant life in Christ.*

THE ORDER OF DIVINE SERVICE SETTING ONE

(Based on Lutheran Service Book page 151)

THE PREPARATION

*We prepare our hearts and minds by confessing our sins and humbly turning to our God who alone is able to forgive our sins. “If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.”
(II Corinthians 5:17)*

A NOTE ABOUT SAFETY: We desire to remain a warm and friendly congregation while providing a safe and secure place to worship. To that end, we have a few tips for your participation with us today.

- If you see something, say something. If you happen to notice something out of the ordinary, please mention it to our safety team (yellow badges) or elder (golden badges).
- In the event of any safety emergency, please call 911. More phone calls received by law enforcement will help ensure a prompt and accurate response.
- In a safety emergency, please keep calm and do not leave the secured building unless instructed by a safety team member or elder.

AS WE GATHER

Luke reports that at seeing the resurrected Jesus, the disciples “disbelieved for joy” (24:41). The theme of rejoicing is woven throughout the Scriptures. The psalmist exhorts: “Shout for joy to God, all the earth; sing the glory of His name; give to Him glorious praise!” (66:1–2). The prophet Isaiah assures God’s people that they will have cause for rejoicing as he writes: “For the Lord comforts Zion; . . . joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song” (51:3). Paul writes to people who know of the glorious resurrection of Jesus Christ on that first Easter day: “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice” (Philippians 4:4). The season of Easter is a time for joyous praise that begins now!

A REMINDER: Please turn your cell phone to mute or to vibrate during the worship service. Thank you.

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME & The TOLLING OF THE BELLS



(Please stand)

OPENING HYMN The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done

LSB 464 sts. ref-1, 3-5

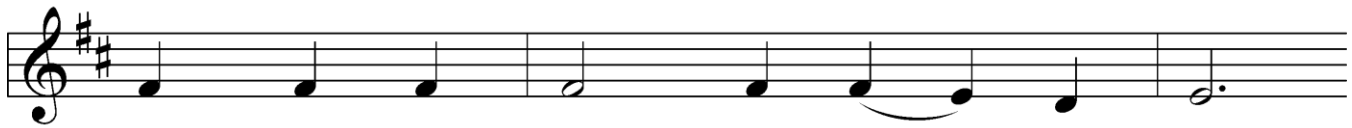
Refrain



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done;
3 The three sad days have quick - ly sped,
4 He broke the age - bound chains of hell;
5 Lord, by the stripes which wound - ed Thee,



Now is the vic - tor's tri - umph won;
He ris - es glo - rious from the dead.
The bars from heav'n's high por - tals fell.
From death's dread sting Thy ser - vants free

The Refrain is repeated after st. 5.



Now be the song of praise be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!
All glo - ry to our ris - en Head! Al - le - lu - ia!
Let hymns of praise His tri - umph tell. Al - le - lu - ia!
That we may live and sing to Thee. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Symphonia Sirenum Selectarum, 1695, Köln; tr. Francis Pott, 1832-1909, alt.

Tune: Giovanni P. da Palestrina, c. 1525-1594, adapt.

Text and tune: Public domain

EASTER GREETING

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**



*Christ is Risen!
Alleluia!*

INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

Psalm 118:24; Romans 6:9; adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.** *Matthew 28:19b [18:20]*

P This is the day that the LORD has made;

C **let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

P Christ being raised from the dead will never die again;

C **death no longer has dominion over Him.**

P Christ has risen from the dead.

C **God the Father has crowned Him with glory and honor.**

P He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands;

C **He has put all things under His feet.**

(Please be seated)

CONFESSION OF SINS

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** *1 John 1:8-9*

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit. *[John 20:19-23]*

C **Amen.**

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C **He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

T Service of the Word T

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

LSB 154

A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.



C Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord,



You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

LSB 156

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Acts 3:11–21

¹¹While [the lame man who was now healed] clung to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the portico called Solomon's, astounded. ¹²And when Peter saw it he addressed the people: "Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we have made him walk? ¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And his name—by faith in his name—has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all.

¹⁷"And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out, ²⁰that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, ²¹whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SPECIAL MUSIC 10:30AM

Spring Ring

Joyful Ringers

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EPISTLE

1 John 3:1–7

¹See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God’s children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. ³And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

⁴Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he appeared to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

(Please stand)

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 24:36–49

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

³⁶As they were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, “Peace to you!” ³⁷But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. ³⁸And he said to them, “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate before them.

⁴⁴Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

(Be seated)

1. Alleluia, alleluia!
Hearts to heav'n and voices raise:
Sing to God a hymn of gladness,
Sing to God a hymn of praise;
He who on the cross a victim
For the world's salvation bled
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory,
Now is risen from the dead.
2. Alleluia, Christ is risen!
Death at last has met defeat:
See the ancient pow'rs of evil
In confusion and retreat;
Once He died, and once was buried:
Now He lives forevermore,
Jesus Christ, the world's Redeemer,
Whom we worship and adore.
3. Alleluia, alleluia!
Glory be to God on high:
Alleluia to the Savior
Who has gained the victory;
Alleluia to the Spirit,
Fount of love and sanctity!
Alleluia, alleluia
To the triune Majesty!



Text (sts. 1, 3): Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–85; (st. 2): rev. The Jubilate Group

Text (sts. 1, 3): Public domain

Text (st. 2): © 1982 The Jubilate Group, admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000907

SERMON

Rev. Dr. R. Brian Stolarczyk

(Please stand)

APOSTLES' CREED

LSB 159

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life T everlasting. Amen.

*I am going to send you
what my Father has promised;
but stay in the city
until you have been clothed
with power from on high.*



Luke 24:49

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. We pray for the whole church, that the message of salvation may joyfully be proclaimed throughout all the world and the forgiveness of sins be celebrated around the globe. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P We pray for the nations of the world, that governments would be a source of blessing to those who are governed and that oppression in all forms may be hindered, bringing a sense of security and well-being in every place. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P We pray for ourselves in this season of our Lord's great victory that we may truly be Easter people all year long, radiating the light of Christ in our homes, workplaces, and communities. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P We pray for all who serve us through their callings, especially those who deal with special challenges or dangers on a regular basis, including police officers, firefighters, and other emergency personnel. Also, we remember at this time the military forces of our nation, those stationed both at home and abroad, whose efforts serve to defend our nation in challenging times [*especially . . .*]. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P We pray for those with special concerns and needs this day: those who are hospitalized, [*especially . . . Ivana (friend of Augusto & Isabel Vazquez), Jan Krauss (mother of Greg Krauss), Rev. Michael Mueller, Carmen Torres (sister in law of Augusto & Isabel Vazquez), the Family of Samuel Vazquez (son of Augusto & Isabel Vazquez), Ken Werring*], those who grieve, the unemployed and underemployed, the chronically ill and shut-in, and all others whose needs are known to us. Bless them with Your presence, gracious Father, that they may have a sense of purpose in their lives and find strength and hope for each day. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Merciful God, we bless You for having placed into our lives faithful Christian people to guide us. We remember those no longer among us on earth, who have completed their earthly races and have won the final victory in Christ. Lead us to follow in their way, that we may rejoice together eternally with saints and angels. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer. Amen.**

OFFERING

For those worshipping online, please visit www.lccross.org to find links to our Give+ secured online giving portal and our online Pew Card which is called a Connect Card. Or to fill out the card directly go to <https://forms.gle/X46ym1HuZ9DCsq9s6> You may also drop off your offering at the church office Mondays and Wednesdays from 9 AM – Noon.



For those worshipping in-person, please indicate your attendance and any requests on the Pew Card.

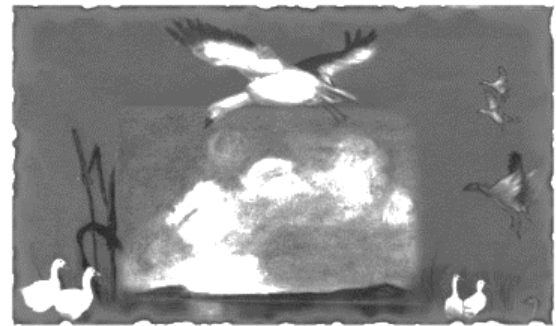
OFFERING HYMN

Consider How the Birds Above

LSB 736 sts. 1–4

(Sung to Fight the Good Fight - LSB 664)

1. Consider how the birds above
Feed day by day with carefree ease
Does God not keep them in His love?
Are we not worth much more than these?
2. The lilies grow, they do not toil;
How fair is their fragility—
If God clothes these, which quickly spoil,
Will He not clothe both you and me?
3. Set not your heart on food or drink,
Nor be weighed down by worldly care;
About such things the godless think,
Yet never thank the Lord in prayer.
4. Be on your guard against all greed,
For life is more than what we own.
Our Father knows our ev'ry need
Before our needs to us are known.



Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955

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LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

LSB 958

Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

COLLECT FOR OBEDIENCE TO THE WORD

P O holy and most merciful God, You have taught us the way of Your commandments. We implore You to pour out Your grace into our hearts. Cause it to bear fruit in us that, being ever mindful of Your mercies and Your laws, we may always be directed to Your will and daily increase in love toward You and one another. Enable us to resist all evil and to live a godly life. Help us to follow the example of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and to walk in His steps until we shall possess the kingdom that has been prepared for us in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and T give you peace.

C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN I Know That My Redeemer Lives LSB 461 sts. 1–2, 4–5, 7

1. I know that my Redeemer lives;
 What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
 He lives, He lives, who once was dead;
 He lives, my ever-living head.

2. He lives triumphant from the grave;
 He lives eternally to save;
 He lives all-glorious in the sky;
 He lives exalted there on high.

4. He lives to grant me rich supply;
 He lives to guide me with His eye;
 He lives to comfort me when faint;
 He lives to hear my soul's complaint.

5. He lives to silence all my fears;
 He lives to wipe away my tears;
 He lives to calm my troubled heart;
 He lives all blessings to impart.

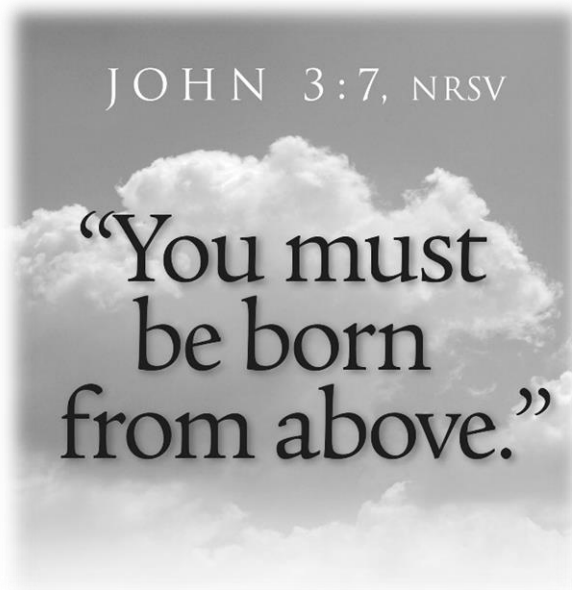
(continued)

7. He lives and grants me daily breath;
He lives, and I shall conquer death;
He lives my mansion to prepare;
He lives to bring me safely there.

Text: Samuel Medley, 1738–99, abr.
Text: Public domain

SILENT PRAYER

PARTING ANNOUNCEMENTS & POSTLUDE



You have been a blessing to us! Please use this time to “check-in” with Christian brothers and sisters around you. Coffee and donuts are being served in the Fellowship & Ministry Center at 9:00am. Please stop by and enjoy.



your

Acknowledgments

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Pastor: Rev. Dr. R. Brian Stolarczyk ~ Winter Pastor: Rev. Jerry Menk
Guest Organist: Stephen Kopp III ~ Handbell Co-Directors: Bill & Ronna Trueman
Clarinet: Bill Trueman ~ Drums: Chris Wrightsman ~ Flute: Raymond Stolarczyk
Saxophone: Cheryl Domingo ~ Trombone: Arnie Piering

April 14, 2024

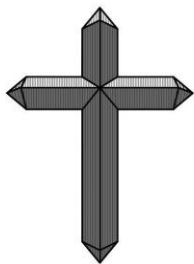
Welcoming all to walk together toward abundant life in Christ

The **ETERNAL LIGHT** is provided to the Glory of God by Nikki Chouinard in memory of her sainted mother's birthday and her parents anniversary.

The **FLOWERS** on the altar for are provided to the Glory of God by Rick & Suzanne Fadely in honor of Myles & Priseis's confirmation (04/21/24).

WORSHIP SERVANTS

Bell Tollers	Cheryl Domingo, Luke Stolarczyk
Elders on Duty	Ron McCormick, Chris Trapp
Communion Assistants	Jerry Kecken, Wayn Nelson
Greeters/Ushers	Kay Helgerson
Altar Servers	Nancy Bird, Suzanne Fadely, Cathy McCabe, Joyce Spier
Safety Team	David Aiken, Mark Keck
Streaming Team	Gloria Cvelbar, Wayn Nelson, Luke Stolarczyk



OFFICE HOURS:

By Phone: Monday – Friday 9:00am to 3:00pm
(941) 627-6060 ~ Fax: (941) 627-5467

By email: secretary@lccross.org

Find us on the Web: www.lccross.org

Subscribe to our YouTube Channel or Like us on Facebook.

IF YOU HAVE any comments, questions or suggestions, please contact:

Parish Administrator	Jennifer Strefling:	941-627-6060
Head Elder	Jim McCabe:	847-471-1421

In case of Emergency you may reach	<u>Pastor Stolarczyk:</u>	Cell: 941-979-7490
	<u>Pastor Menk:</u>	Cell: 941-327-9453

IN OUR PRAYERS

Homebound Care:

John & Lois Arens, Ann Curley-LaFave, Marvin & Lillian Fitzwater, Bruce & Connie Frilstad, Cris & Linda Kelly

Strength, Healing, Guidance: *

Diane	Friend of LCC; pain relief & healing
Chuck Anderson	Recovery & healing
Fran Boatwright	Recovery
Jason Boegel	Son of John Vogel; recovery
Carol Burgess	Testing
Roxanne Gillette	Friend of LCC; understanding & faith
Jan Krauss	Mother of Greg Krauss; recovery & healing
Val Korman	Hospice Care
Phil Miller	Recovery & healing
Rev. Michael Mueller	Schedule for surgery
Chris Sabin	Strength & healing
Dale Sawicki	Healing & comfort
Nancy Thorne	Mother of Ginger Thorne; recovery & healing
Cheryl Usowicz	Healing
Family of Samuel Vazquez	Son of Augusto & Isabel Vazquez; strength & healing
Ken Werring	Recovery & healing

**Prayers will run for four consecutive weeks unless otherwise notified.*

Battling Cancer:

Ivana	Friend of Augusto & Isabel Vazquez; battling cancer
Karen	Daughter Ann LaFave; battling cancer
Holly Beyer	Cousin Ron McCormick; battling cancer
Cate Bocassi	Friend of LCC; battling cancer
Lynn Clawson	Friend of LCC; battling cancer, testing
Dave DeBraccio	Battling with Leukemia, healing & strength
Lisa Anne Denofrio	Daughter Tom & Krystyna Johnson; palliative care
Matt Doctor	Brother-in-law of Diane Barton; battling cancer
Diana Fiordimondo	Sis-in-Law of Nat & Melinda Fiordimondo; cancer
Steve Kirkland	Brother of Bruce Kirkland; battling cancer
Todd Kliez	Battling cancer
Patricia Ruiz	Family of Fadely/Maestas family; battling cancer
Kathy Sanders	Friend of LCC; battling cancer
Carmen Torres	Sister in law of Augusto & Isabel Vazquez; cancer
Lori Truelove	Niece Joyce Schankin; cancer battle; strength, peace

Military:

US Army SSG. Paul Behling	Son of Ron & Cohleen Nottingham; stationed FL
USAF TSGT David Cope Jr.	Son of David and Shelly Cope stationed in NM
US Army CSM Matt Hopkins	Grandson of Dave & Gayle DeBraccio; in Kuwait
USAF Sr. Airman Shawn Golembieski	Grandson of Stan & Betty Golembieski; in FL
US Navy ENS Joe Golembieski	Grandson of Stan & Betty Golembieski; in VA
US Navy Seaman Nick Golembieski	Grandson of Stan & Betty Golembieski; Seabound
USCG SCPO Robert Kecken	Son Jerry & Meredith Kecken; stationed in CA
USAF A1C Riley Latarski	Granddaughter Bill & Dorothy Christman in ND
Marines LCPL Jonathan Metz	Grandson of Jerry & Joyce Metz; in MD
Marines LCPL Kyle Spilker	Grandson in law Chuck Anderson; in CA
USAF TSGT Kalin Verardi	Granddaughter Bill & Dorothy Christman; in MA
US Army PFC Parker Woodruff	Grandson of Larry & Delila Woodruff; in Fort Bragg

Family Prayer: We remember all our **families** during times of personal and family **trial and tribulation.**

If you know of someone needing church prayers, please contact the church office at 941-627-6060. Be sure to have the name, relationship to the church family and what is the need for the prayer.

LCC ATTENDANCE REPORT:

On Site Attendance	Sunday: 04/07/2024 43 / 122
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LCC WEEKLY INCOME AND EXPENSE REPORT 2024

Week:	04/07/2024
Weekly Income:	\$ 21,228
Weekly Expense:	\$ 13,846



The LCC Lost & Found is currently in possession of a few unclaimed items. Please check the Narthex cubbies in the Sanctuary to see if any of these items belong to you. Any items not picked up by the late service April 21st will be discarded.

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

Tuesday, April 16: Church Council meets @ 7:00pm in the FMC



UPCOMING CHURCH EVENTS

Saturday, April 20: Confirmation Bread Baking at 12:00pm in the FMC

Sunday, April 21: LCC Youth Confirmation Sunday @ the 10:30am service

Sunday, April 25: Baptism: Millie Mae Bittner @ the 10:30am service

WEEKLY RE-OCCURRING CAMPUS EVENTS:

- † AA Meetings: Meets weekly in the FMC @ 7:00pm
Monday (Women Only)
Tuesday & Wednesday (Open to all)
- † Christian Education & Fellowship: Every Sunday in the FMC @ 9:00am
- † Joyful Ringers Handbell Choir: Meets every Thursday in the Sanctuary @ 4:30pm
- † LCC Vocal Choir Rehearsal: Meets every Thursday in the Sanctuary @ 5:45pm
- † LCC Garden Committee: Meets every Wednesday in the Prayer Park @ 9:30am
- † LifeLight The Time Between the Testaments:
Meets every Thursday in the FMC at 10:00am
- † Raise Right: Meets every Sunday @ 9:00am and following late services in the FMC
- † SON-Seekers Bible Study: Meets every Monday in the FMC @ 11:30am

